

THE MONTANA NEWS.

ISSUED WEEKLY.

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OFFICE 22 PARK AVE. P. O. BOX 908

Entered at the Post Office for transmission through the mail at second class rates.

SUBSCRIPTION, \$1.00 PER YEAR.

Advertising Rates made known upon application at this office.

Any subscriber not receiving the News regularly should notify this office at once. It only takes a one cent postal card. Our mailing list is practically perfect, and many errors are carelessly made at certain postoffices, and our readers can assist us greatly in promptly notifying this office of the same.



The absence of the middle class in Russia is one thing that will assist in hastening Socialism.

The new year will soon be here, and it would be a good thing for the members of the Locals over the state to get out a good meeting and resolve to continue with good meetings the rest of the year.

Sunday the legislators convene in this city. With few exceptions they are a gang of money hirelings and all have their pockets stuffed with railroad transportation. They will be a nice looking bunch to make laws for the "people." However they will look good to the railroads and other grafting institutions.

Both old parties, the democrat and republican, are dead now, and will remain so until capitalism needs its right and left wings again to sail into political power. Both wings of the capitalist culture are made out of workingmen's votes, and if the Socialists will do their duty for the next two years it will be hard for the old bird to fly at the next attempt.

The "Line-Up" a new Socialist publication issued at Kansas City is one of the latest additions to the Socialist newspaper field. Judging from an issue or two it is a good little class conscious paper, edited by a comrade of the real revolutionary type, and one of the kind that is needed in that Kansas country which appears to be pretty well imbued with a bourgeois sentiment. Success to the revolutionary "Line-Up."

Comrade Oscar Edgar, formerly editor of the Florida Socialist, in retiring from the staff reviews the situation and hard struggle to keep a Socialist paper going. He says: "As it is, the time has come when I must do something that will at least feed me. The need for three or at least two meals a day may be largely artificial. No doubt it is. But when one has formed the bad habit of eating regular meals and persisted in it until middle age, it is often fatal to break off the habit too suddenly. And dead men do not make good editors."

The noted Nan Patterson trial has come to an end by the jury agreeing to disagree. The charge against the girl was that she killed a Mr. Young in a cab in New York City a few weeks ago. It is a question whether Miss Patterson should be prosecuted or not, for the simple fact that she was a show girl, frivolous but beautiful, and Mr. Young was a married man, and should be supposed to at least have horse sense, and having that, he would be at home with his family in place of cutting around at parlor drunks with a variety actress. Many are heard to remark, "A married man mixed up like this needs killing."

An eastern exchange says: "The Norfolk, Nebraska, beet sugar factory has moved to Colorado. For years this outfit was outside of the trust, but now have

gotten inside and so it has been found necessary to spread out so that sugar could be kept at a higher price. Sugar ought to be put on the free list." Yes, possibly sugar ought to be put on the free list for the jackasses who have voted this condition onto the people. Clothes ought to be put on the free list for this same class of working mules, and the men who persist in voting for a system of this kind ought to be put on the demo-republican free insane list.

TRAITORS TO LABOR.

Editor O'Neill of the Western Federation of Miners' Magazine is a roaster. His long drawn out bunches of bowery rhetoric, deluged in adjectives which he brought into play in his attack on Comrade Unterman and in the "explanation" of the "Socialist" vote is long on vituperation and short on logic.

He and his bunch of Iscariots in Labor's cause are going to educate the wage slaves who delve in the bowels of the earth by declaring for Socialism and spouting Socialism in the columns of his organ, and on election day tie in with a bunch of democratic ballot box stuffers, "that those who have calloused hands may be restored to citizenship once more." And one must be on the ground with the assistance of an X-ray to see why the "Socialists" are justified in their actions. Perhaps the treachery of the labor leaders in Colorado is well paralleled by the action of their local secretary of Gilt Edge No. 107, Locke Bruce, who is drawing \$3.50 per day for doing their secretary work and on the side taking orders for clothing manufactured in Kansas City by scab sweat-shop labor, and who supported citizens alliance Geo. Cook for sheriff on the republican ticket in Fergus county, when there was in the field as his opponent Comrade Robert McMillan, a brother member of the Federation's local No. 111 at Kendall, Montana. Gilt Edge local was the bunch of union men (?) affiliated in the Fergus county Trades and Labor Council and with the national body of the American Labor union who turned down the "fair list" of the A. L. U., strikers in Lewistown last year and refused to assist their struggling brothers in union. When Bruce was affronted for his perfidy he dismissed the matter by saying he had as much right to support a republican as the national officers of the Western Federation of Miners who have declared for Socialism have to support democrats. The actions of organized labor and their soft-handed representatives would mystify an East India juggler.

SOCIALISM IN RUSSIA.

A dispatch of the 11th inst. says: Not since the riots of 1901, when Cossacks stretched across the Nevsky Prospect from building to building, and charged down the boulevard from the Moscow station to the Neva, has the Russian capital lived through such a day of excitement as this. The authorities last night got wind of the big anti-government demonstration planned for today by the Socialist-labor party, to demand an immediate end of the war, and the convocation of a national assembly, and in every leading paper this morning, in black faced type, was an explicit warning to the people at their peril to desist from congregating in the Nevsky Prospect near the Kazan cathedral.

The following is the text of the proclamation of the social democratic labor party, calling the demonstration:

"We have raised our voices, calling for better things, but the government has turned a deaf ear to our cry. We, from day to day, draw out a laborious existence, a condition worse than convicts, while they convert millions into smoke and sacrifice thousands of workmen's lives under incompetent generals. We are shedding our blood for our torturers, while they are entering into a shameless bargain with wealthy landlords and zemstvoists. Enough, men, we cannot endure it longer. We must arise and boldly proclaim that we want an end of war and a government by representatives of the people.

"All who are ready to fight for

our demands, assemble in front of the Kazan cathedral at one o'clock."

WHAT ABOUT UNEMPLOYED?

Capital insists upon its right to hire labor at the market rate. We all know what this means. The "market rate" is always below the rate at which men are holding their jobs, no matter how low that rate may be, so long as there are men out of employment.—C. J. O'Brien in Typographical Journal.

But is the man out of employment entitled to no consideration? What are you going to do with him? When men are out of jobs the natural inference is that there are more men than jobs. How will taking them into the union better the situation? Can you create a new job for every man that comes in? Yes, the men out of employment make the "market rate." When work is scarce all the unions in Christendom can not maintain high wages; when work is plenty, employers must bid against each other and wages will rise, even if unions try to prevent it. So what is the use of a unionism based on force? In times of prosperity the members do not need it, and in times of adversity it can not do them good.—Industrial Independent.

The above comment by the citizens alliance organ is significant. The great trouble is that the union man does not understand it as such; if he did he would be a Socialist. If the union men investigate they will discover that since the year 1850, when organization was started in the United States, they have increased in numbers, but that their share of the wealth produced has decreased, due to private ownership of machinery, with its concomitant, the unemployed problem. The alliance pertinently asks the union men, "What about the unemployed?" When the unionist understands this, he invariably will be in the Socialist ranks.

A BOURGEOIS PLATFORM.

The adoption of a city Socialist platform at this time is a piece of work that needs the very closest attention and deepest study possible in order that nothing be said that should not be said, and also in order that all be said that should be said.

In this matter the St. Louis Socialists have produced about as bad a mess, barring a few points, as did the Wisconsin Socialists in their state platform. In their opening paragraph they declare:

We, the Socialist party of St. Louis, pledge our fidelity to the principles of international Socialism as enunciated in our national platform, and invite all fair-minded men to study the great labor problem in relation to municipal affairs.

Three points of interest in that paragraph: first they declared their fidelity to international Socialism, which is, according to the late international congress, revolutionary Socialism, and then they say in the same breath as "enunciated in our national platform," which is an opportune literary edict. One assertion contradicts the other; the third point is that they invite "fair-minded" men to study the labor problem. Now what is "fair-minded" men?

Then after covering the condition of a number of cities in other states this paragraph appears:

The public interests are almost entirely ignored?

Who is the public? if the working class, the above is wrong because the interests of the workers are absolutely ignored, not "almost."

And if it means the bourgeois or exploiting class by the "public" then the phrase is out of order.

In the next paragraph they declare for "public or collective" ownership. Collective ownership is Socialism but "public" ownership is graftism the same as the present postoffice plan where the postmaster draws about \$300 per month to pull political wires while the poor wage slave who does the hard work gets from \$50 to \$80 per month.

They also declare for "municipal" street railways, "municipal" lighting and heating plants, etc. But after declaring for international Socialism, mind you International Socialism, they adopt the following paragraph:

No person shall be employed on any street railway within the city of St. Louis who have not been resident citizens for at least one year prior to

the time of their employment.

That declaration would be a disgrace to a capitalist platform, and would not be "radical" enough for a Bryan-Hearst-Watson platform. Just think of that bourgeois rot? Suppose some of you Socialists get fired out of your jobs in some other state or city, and should go to St. Louis, you could not get into the street car service until you had lived there one year; during this time, we naturally suppose, that a democrat or republican "mullet-headed" union man would hold the position, not because he scabbled at the ballot box, but because he belongs to the union.

After declaring for international Socialism and capitalistic citizenship in order to hold a job, they also declare as follows:

Only organized labor shall be employed by the city, and the 8-hour workday shall be strictly observed in all municipal work. Where contract work is unavoidable, the contractors shall employ organized labor only.

It appears from that that the party of the class struggle has relegated itself into a union proposition. All these organized labor parties have been a fake, and have repeatedly sold in the political market to the highest bidder—the same as they sold out in Montana in the last election for a certain specified sum to endorse the democrat ticket. And now St. Louis proceeds to narrow the party of the class struggle down to a union proposition which only represents about 14 per cent of the workers of the country. Then they take a shot at the tax proposition as follows:

That immediate steps be taken to rigidly enforce the laws compelling the big corporations to pay their quota of municipal taxes, in proportion to the full valuation of their taxable property.

What interest has the Socialist party or the workers who make up the party in the tax proposition? None whatever. The sooner the tax proposition eats up the little fellow and causes him to lose his property the better. This applies to the bourgeois, and he must be driven into the ranks of the proletariat before Socialism can be or rather will be established. It is a wonder they did not say something about arranging the seats in heaven for the little tax payer.

Of course they declared for an 8-hour day, and when you think of all these kind of immediate demand reforms, it is no wonder that the S. L. P., comrades take such falls out of us. If the comrades don't wake up and get down to business in this proposition of adopting revolutionary platforms in place of the sentimental, reform, meaningless assertions like the above, why, Bryan will jump in with his crown of thorns and cross of gold and adopt a platform that will put these bourgeois half-baked productions in the shade.

EXPIRING SUBSCRIPTIONS.

With this issue we close the year of 1904, and with the close of the year many subscriptions expire. The great number of two-bit subscriptions added to our list during the campaign will expire on this date, and we desire to call our readers' attention to the fact that they may renew in time to not miss a single issue of the paper.

If you will look at the label on your paper bearing your name you will see whether your subscription expires as above suggested or not. If to the right of your name appears 1/Jan05 it signifies that January 1, 1905 has arrived, or will have before another issue, and that your subscription has expired, and the name will be dropped from the mailing list unless renewed.

We trust that our many comrades will look after these subscribers as closely as possible and assist us in this work.

Do you wonder that men had rather be in jail than out? How many do you think failed to eat turkey dinner on Christmas who were not in jail? Down in Missouri the authorities of the state penitentiary arranged a swell dinner for the convicts on Christmas, including everything customary to the occasion, from turkey to the celery, cranberry

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sauce and other trimmings. Thirty-five hundred pounds of turkey were purchased and this one item on the menu cost \$630. Think of sitting down to that feast or being a tramp, one of the million and a half who are now on the tramp in this prosperous country, while prison birds are dining at swell luncheons. Is it any wonder that men are committing crimes that they may get in jail for the winter at least? Why, under the present conditions in jail is better than out. This is the fruit of the present competitive system, where more is produced than can be consumed, and yet in the midst of plenty we are in want.

Congressman Hull of Iowa has introduced a bill in congress in the interest of organized labor and the working mule in general. It purports to be a bill "to encourage rifle practice and excellence in marksmanship among citizens of the United States so as to render them quickly available for efficient service in time of war." Mr. Hull is a "good" republican, and you republican union men who voted on election day for Open Shop Roosevelt, will probably appreciate the excellence of this bill. Of course you see this bill is meant to give the workers an opportunity to get in

practice in the murder business, so when a strike is called they will be in good trim to go out and shoot the capitalists, eh? The first paragraph coolly appropriates \$1,000,000 a year to carry out the scheme. Of course the capitalist puts up this one million dollars because he is such a philanthropic enterprising individual. Under capitalism the bullet and bayonet are introduced in the schools and the child taught the spirit of military murder. Under Socialism the weapons of murder will be relegated to the scrap-heap, and Social economics will be introduced in the schools when children will learn of the establishment for the first time of the real brotherhood of man.

The supreme court has dismissed the proceedings brought by the attorney general of gambling fame against the eastern firms which, it was claimed, were operating in the state in violation of the anti-trust law. That's good. In the first place no one has any confidence in the attorney general, and in the second place the capitalist court got on the right side of the fence. They are class conscious; the trust can break no anti-trust laws, any more than the rich can do no wrong.

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Leave	11:02 a. m.	Dorsey	Arrive 12:55 p. m.
Arrive	11:30 p. m.	Summit	Leave 12:30 p. m.
Leave	12:01 p. m.	Summit	Arrive 12:00 m.
Leave	12:40 p. m.	Lenep	Arrive 11:20 a. m.
Leave	1:06 p. m.	Martinsdale	Arrive 10:53 a. m.
Leave	1:41 p. m.	Twodot	Arrive 10:23 a. m.
Leave	2:20 p. m.	Harlowtown	Arrive 9:55 a. m.
Leave	3:50 p. m.	Ubet	Arrive 8:35 a. m.
Leave	4:58 p. m.	Moore	Arrive 7:50 a. m.
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